

Message Text

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10
ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 OIC-02 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 ACDA-07 /112 W
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R 310630Z JUL 76
FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0316
INFO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

C O N F I D E N T I A L HELSINKI 1596

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, UN, US, SW, FI
SUBJECT: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: COLOMBO NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT

REF: STATE 178439

1. POLITICAL COUNSELOR ON JULY 30 DISCUSSED FORTHCOMING
COLOMBO NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT WITH PAAVO KEISALO, CHIEF OF
BILATERAL RELATIONS OFFICE OF THE MFA'S POLITICAL DIVISION.
KEISALO WILL BE A MEMBER OF THE FINNISH DELEGATION TO THE
COLOMBO SUMMIT WHICH FINLAND WILL ATTEND AS INVITED GUEST.

2. FINLAND'S DELEGATION WILL BE HEADED BY MINISTER OF
JUSTICE KRISTIAN GESTRIN, THE FIRST TIME THAT A MINISTER HAS
LED FINNISH DELEGATION TO A NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT. OTHER
MEMBERS OF THE FINNISH DELEGATION ARE ILKKA PASTINEN OF THE
MFA (WHOSE DUTIES INCLUDE FOLLOWING POLITICAL ASPECTS OF THE
NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT), AMBASSADOR RIITTA ORO (ACCREDITED
TO COLOMBO, RESIDENT IN NEW DELHI), AND MFA ECONOMIC
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DEPT. DEPUTY OFFICE HEAD BJORN EKBLOM (WHO FOLLOWS

ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT).

3. KEISALO SAID THE GOF DELIBERATELY UPGRADED ITS DELEGATION TO MINISTERIAL LEVEL IN ORDER TO UNDERScore FINLAND'S INTEREST IN THE CONFERENCE. HE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT SWEDEN HAD BEEN REPRESENTED AT LIMA BY A MINISTER-LEVEL DELEGATION (FINNISH DELEGATION HEAD HAD BEEN PASTINEN). KEISALO SAID MFA HAS COPIES OF THE DRAFT STATEMENTS FOR THE COLOMBO CONFERENCE WHICH EMERGED FROM THE RECENT MEETING IN ALGIERS. HE IS THOROUGHLY FAMILIAR WITH USG POSITIONS ON KOREA AND PUERTO RICO.

4. KEISALO SAID GOF HAS BEEN THUS FAR UNABLE TO VERIFY WHETHER AN INVITED GUEST AT THE CONFERENCE WILL BE GIVEN OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE STATEMENT. IF POSSIBLE, HOWEVER, THE FINNISH DELEGATION PLANS TO MAKE A THREE-PAGE STATEMENT: (A) EMPHASIZING ITS COMMITMENT TO EAST/WEST DETENTE, (B) URGING RAPID PROGRESS TOWARD NORTH/SOUTH DETENTE, AND (C) MAKING A STRONG PLEA FOR WORLD DISARMAMENT AND THE CONVENING OF A WORLD DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE.

5. COMMENT. GESTRIN IS CURRENTLY ACTING PRIME MINISTER DURING PRESIDENT KEKKONEN'S STATE VISIT TO THE U.S. HE IS A LEADING MEMBER OF THE SWEDISH PARTY AND A PRO-WEST POLITICIAN FAVORABLY DISPOSED TO THE UNITED STATES.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NONALIGNED NATIONS, SUMMIT MEETINGS, MEETING DELEGATIONS, INVITATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976HELSIN01596
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760296-0541
From: HELSINKI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t1976072/aaaaaaya.tel
Line Count: 90
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 178439
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 APR 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <09 AUG 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: COLOMBO NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT
TAGS: PFOR, OCON, US, SW, FI, UN, (GESTRIN, KRISTIAN), (KEISALO, PAAVO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006